

PROCEEDINGS  
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A NEW SPECIES OF *EULEPIDOTIS* HÜBNER FROM  
SOUTH AMERICA (LEPIDOPTERA: NOCTUIDAE)

By E. L. TODD

*Entomology Research Division, Agricultural Research Service,  
U. S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, D. C.*

The following description is presented in order to make available a name for four specimens from the collections of the U. S. National Museum, one specimen from the American Museum of Natural History, New York, N. Y., and one specimen sent for identification by Bruno Pohl, São Paulo, Brazil.

***Eulepidotis preclara*, new species**

Head with proboscis well developed; labial palpi upcurved, reaching about to vertex of frons, third segment shortest (0.50 mm), clothed mostly with appressed dark scales, extreme apex and ventral patch slightly distad of base white, first and second segments longer (0.70-0.80 and 0.90-1.00 mm), second segment dark with ventral patches of white scales at base and apex, third segment pale yellow with a dorsolateral patch of dark scales at apex, scales at base of venter longer, forming a loose tuft; frons flat, smooth, scarcely exceeding anterior margin of eyes; eyes moderately wide, in frontal aspect subequal to width of frons, naked, hemispherical; ocelli present, small, adnate to dorsal margin of eye caudad of base of antenna; antenna filiform in both sexes, dark-scaled dorsally, minute cilia and spicules on venter, spicules of terminal articles longest. Vestiture of head and patagium mainly of dark scales but with transverse lines of white or pale-yellow scales present; tegula mostly white, some dark scales present at base, apex a tuft of white hairs; thorax clothed with broad yellow and white appressed scales; dorsum of abdomen white, becoming straw-yellow posteriorly; venter of abdomen white, scales of eighth segment of male extending farther distad than those of dorsum and concealing moderate ventral hair tufts. Pectus clothed with white and pale-yellow hair and scales; tympanum moderate, only partially shielded by abdominal hood; legs moderate, tibiae and tarsi of front and middle legs light brown or yellowish-brown, hind legs mostly white, tibiae of middle and hind legs of male with sexual modifications, middle tibia swollen, folded, forming a longitudinal groove containing a pale hair pencil, hind tibia with large, irregular dorsal tufts of hairs at middle, some of the hairs dark in color, hind tibia of female

with a smaller, white dorsal tuft at middle. Forewing triangular, 14 to 17 mm in length; costa nearly straight, slightly convex basally and apically; termen evenly rounded except slightly concave before tornus; inner margin straight except convex near base;  $R_1$  free, from near middle of cell;  $R_3$  from  $R_2$ , anastomosing with  $R_1$  to near apex, forming a small elliptical areole;  $R_5$  from  $R_{4+5}$  near apex of areole;  $M_1$  from base of areole;  $M_2$  and  $M_3$  arising just above lower angle of cell;  $Cu_1$  from lower angle of cell;  $Cu_2$  from apical third of cell; cell open, about half as long as wing. Hind wing rather rectangular, termen roundly angled at  $M_3$ ;  $Sc+R_1$  adnate with cell for basal fourth;  $R_s$  and  $M_1$  from upper angle of cell;  $M_2$  from slightly above and basad of lower angle of cell;  $M_3$  and  $Cu_1$  from lower angle of cell;  $Cu_2$  from apical third of cell; cell open, less than half length of wing.

Pattern of maculation as illustrated (Fig. 1), the same for both sexes. Ground color of upper side of forewing white; transverse and oblique bands and lines brown, terminal line darkest, the two basal oblique bands with median areas pale gray-brown with metallic reflections; fringe brown, yellow-brown at tornus. Upper surface of hind wing mostly pale-yellow; fine terminal line between  $R_s$  and  $M_3$  black, preceded by a fine white line; an intense black terminal spot at end of cell  $M_3$  and part of cell  $Cu_1$ ; a small terminal, triangular white patch in cell  $Cu_1$ ; an irregular subterminal patch of orange in cells  $M_1$  through  $Cu_3$ , the median part in cell  $Cu_1$  opalescent and containing some scattered black scales; fringe yellow-brown except fuscous distad of black terminal spot at angle of wing, scales of fringe reduced and curled at this point forming a short curved tail at anterior edge of notch. Lower surfaces of wings mainly yellow; apex of forewing from outer third of costa to  $Cu_2$  fuscous; lower surface of hind wing similar to upper surface except



FIG. 1. Type, female, *Eulepidotis preclara*, n. sp., Tingo Maria, Perú.

orange subterminal patch is absent, terminal black spot of angle is smaller, and the white basal of fine black terminal line is more extensive.

Male genitalia moderately large, about 3.5 mm from base of uncus to ventral end of vinculum. Valves simple, flat, symmetrical, membranous lobes, apices rounded and inner surface covered with a mat of fine hairs; costa sclerotized for basal three-fourths, distal end of sclerotized part of costa a free blunt lobe; base of outer surface of valve with a long, membranous, protrusible lobe covered with fine, long hairs, lobe 7 to 8 mm in length when extended. Uncus swollen for apical third, cygnate, swollen part crowned with dense mass of short, fine hairs. Tegumen elongate, narrow at base of uncus, ventral part provided with a small, triangular, posteriorly directed projection from area level with aedeagus. Aedeagus rather stout, about 4 times as long as greatest diameter; vesica provided with one large, curved cornutus, cornutus about one-third as long as aedeagus, arising from vesica near apex of aedeagal shaft.

The genitalia of the male are similar to those of *E. geminata* Packard, but in that species the valves are more elongate, the posteriorly directed projection of the tegumen larger, the aedeagus longer and much more slender (about 7 times as long as greatest diameter), the single cornutus of the vesica much smaller (about one-eighth as long as aedeagus) and not curved.

Female genitalia with ventral plate only slightly developed, nearly transverse, posterior margin very slightly convex; a large sinus vaginalis present, the sides of latter subparallel, anterior margin broadly rounded, ventral and lateral parts formed by two large, weakly sclerotized plates from pleural region of the seventh segment, dorsal part of sinus vaginalis formed by two smaller, irregular plates and a groove leading to ostium, inner edges of the dorsal plates scobinate; ductus bursae membranous on right side, left side with a blunt conical sclerotization near posterior end and a weaker, vague, sclerotized area toward anterior end; bursa copulatrix moderate, posterior part a short, membranous tube, median part largest, extended to the left, left side with numerous, prominent, parallel folds, inner surface of area with folds minutely scobinate, a strap-like signum present, scarcely distinguishable from the parallel folds, anterior part of bursa copulatrix a weak, membranous sac; ductus seminalis from posterior margin of left side of median part of bursa copulatrix; posterior apophyses very long and slender (nearly 3 times as long as width of sinus vaginalis); anterior apophyses shorter and stouter (about 2 times as long as width of sinus vaginalis).

The female genitalia are similar to those of *E. geminata* Packard, but in *geminata* the entire left side of the ductus bursae is sclerotized and there is but one dorsal plate in the sinus vaginalis. The dorsal plate is ventrad and cephalad of the ostium and the posterior margin is pointedly emarginate.

Type, ♀, Tingo Maria, Perú, 11 December 1949, H. A. Allard, U. S. National Museum Type No. 64635; one ♀ paratype, same place and collector, 15 December 1949; one ♂ paratype, Japelacio, Perú, donor

F. Johnson; and one ♂ paratype, "St. Catherines" (Santa Catarina), Brazil, donor F. Johnson, in the U. S. National Museum, Washington, D. C. One ♂ paratype, Cauca Valley, Colombia, F. C. Nicholas, in the American Museum of Natural History, New York, N. Y. One ♀ paratype, Benjamin Constant, Amazonas, Brazil, August 1942, B. Pohl, in the personal collection of Mr. Pohl, São Paulo, Brazil.

This species differs from all the others of this genus that have white on the forewings, with one exception, in that the basal oblique band extends from the base of the costa to the tornus. In the other species the band does not reach the base of the costa. In the exception, *E. metamorpha* Dyar, the basal oblique band does arise from the base of costa, but the apical fourth of the wing is brown and, exclusive of the fringe, only two white areas are present. *E. preclara* is obviously most closely related to *E. geminata* Packard, but the latter is larger, the basal oblique band arises from basal third of costa, the subterminal transverse line of the forewing is more or less uniform in width, a large black apical spot is present on the hind wing, and the terminal black spot at the angle of the outer margin of the hind wing is divided by a fine, longitudinal, white line. In addition, the tibia of the male of *geminata* is provided with a larger sinuous brush of hairs. The hairs of the brush extend from the outer surface at the base to near the apex of the dorsum of the tibia.